



ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
50 F Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001
(202) 639-2555

A3275-2

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, December 19, 1985 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended December 14 totaled an estimated 18.0 billion ton-miles, 0.3 percent above the corresponding week of 1984, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 50 weeks of 1985 was an estimated 854.0 billion ton-miles, down 4.3 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended December 14 totaled 392,909, up 1.5 percent from the corresponding week of last year, and 5.9 percent above the preceding week. Compared with last year, loadings were up 5.9 percent in the East, and 0.2 percent in the West, but down 1.1 percent in the South.

Compared with the corresponding week of last year, 12 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. However, coal loadings were up 9,901 cars (8.7 percent). Twelve of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended December 7 totaled 88,674 trailers and/or containers, 3.3 percent below the corresponding week of 1984.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 49 weeks of the year was 4,263,228 trailers and/or containers, down 1.5 percent from 1984.

(more)

following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 12/14/85:

	Loadings in Week ended December 14, 1985			Change from Corresponding Week 1984			Change from Preceding Week		
	Cars			Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent	
Grain	25,979	D		1,764	6.4	I	1,982	8.3	
Other farm products	4,518	D		162	3.5	D	31	0.7	
Metalliferous ores	12,442	I		653	5.5	I	595	5.0	
Coal	123,338	I		9,901	8.7	I	15,447	14.3	
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	11,012	I		486	4.6	I	97	0.9	
Nonmetallic minerals	10,588	I		435	4.3	D	418	3.8	
Grain mill products	10,649	I		25	0.2	D	138	1.3	
Food and kindred products	11,648	I		625	5.7	I	418	3.7	
Primary forest products	11,400	D		2,670	19.0	I	280	2.5	
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,730	D		48	0.7	I	519	8.4	
Pulp, paper and allied products	13,313	D		1,532	10.4	D	493	3.6	
Chemicals and allied products	22,279	D		1,428	6.0	D	1,880	7.8	
Petroleum products	4,640	D		267	5.4	D	118	2.5	
Stone, clay and glass products	9,028	D		669	6.9	D	118	1.3	
Coke	4,474	D		105	2.3	D	625	12.3	
Metals and products	7,750	I		219	2.9	D	94	1.2	
Motor vehicles and equipment	24,022	I		314	1.3	I	1,427	6.3	
Waste and scrap materials	8,250	D		651	7.3	I	727	9.7	
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	6,347	D		1,148	15.3	I	139	2.2	
All other carloads	64,348	I		3,543	5.8	I	4,140	6.9	
LCL traffic	154	D		27	14.9	I	22	16.7	
Total Cars Loaded	392,909	I		5,710	1.5	I	21,878	5.9	

Corresponding week of 1984

387,199

	1985	1984	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (50 weeks)	18,793,479	19,654,790	D 4.3
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
49 Weeks ended December 7	836.1	874.1	D 4.4
Week ended December 14	18.0	17.9	I 0.3
50 Weeks cumulative	854.0	892.0	D 4.3